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SOURCE Liacning Jih-pao.

PROVISIONAL CHARTER OF THE NEW DEMOCRACY YOUTH CORPS
OF THE NORTHEAST

These regulations originally applied to the Mao Tse-tung Youth Corps, but have again been published as the provisional charter of the New Democracy Youth Corps, which is merely a change in designation. The occasion for the publication was the establishment of the New Democracy Youth Corps in Liaoning Province. "New Democracy Youth Corps" has been substituted for "Mao Tse-tung Youth Corps" throughout the text by the translator.

A. Designation

The name of this organization will be the Northeast Liberated Area New Democracy Youth Corps (abbreviated as the Youth Corps).

B. Purpose and Principles

The basic purpose of this organization is to study and practice the principles and faithfully follow the leadership of Mao Tse-tung. Members will study culture, particularly modern scientific knowledge, master technical skills, and become thoroughly familiar with an occupation to aid reconstruction activities of the New Democracy.

The Youth Corps is a progressive youth organization. Its members must love the people, seek truth, guard democracy, and promote the interests of Chinese Communist youth of both sexes, who are the finest offspring of the people of the Northeast. Members should exemplify studiousness and ability to struggle for the attainment of their high aims.

The Youth Corps is also an organization of the proletariat designed to unite the youth of all classes, and to guard against and oppose the deviations of reaction and extremism, in order to establish the organization upon the broad foundation of the masses, and lead youth forward under the banner of Mao Tse-tung.

The basic principle of the New Democracy Youth Corps is the unification of the spirit of the masses and the spirit of progress. The goals of its struggle are to fuse and expand the progressive strength of the youth of the

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Northeast, to eliminate the fascist rule of the people's public enemy, Chiang Kai-shek, to liberate and reconstruct the Northeast, and to fight to the end to establish an independent, peaceful, democratic, prosperous, and united New Democratic China.

C. Membership

1. All youth between the ages of 16 and 25 (under special conditions up to 28) who support the charter of the organization, who are enthusiastically devoted to the service of the people and youth, and who desire to enter the Corps, may become members after going through the proper procedures.

2.- The present goal in urban areas is to attract young workers, students, revolutionary workers, and revolutionary intelligentsia. In rural areas it is desired to attract the youth who are enthusiastically engaged in land reform and production movements. Those entering the Corps should sign the declaration of intention and go through entrance ceremonies.

3. To enter the Corps one must be sponsored by a member and passed by the cell (hsiao-tsu) and detachment committee (chih-t'uan-wei). He then enters upon a 3-month probationary period for testing and instruction. Length of service in the Corps will be counted from the day of formal membership. Any person who has been a member of any other party or group shall have two sponsors (one of whom must be a full member) and be on probation for 6 months before becoming a full member.

4. Sponsors of candidates must be thoroughly acquainted with their background, principles, and political nature and must assume responsibility for them.

5. A probationary member may not nominate or be nominated or vote. One who during the period of probation manifests undesirable tendencies may be ousted by vote of the detachment committee. Before becoming a full member, the probationary member must be passed by the cell and approved by the detachment committee.

6. A member who does not maintain contact with the Corps, does not engage in the Corps' activities, or fails to pay his dues for 3 months shall be deemed to have voluntarily withdrawn from the Corps.

7. Upon request, a member shall be permitted to withdraw from the Corps.

D. Responsibilities and Privileges of Members

1. Responsibilities

a. To learn the principles of Mao Tse-tung, seek to elevate his own cultural and political level, and become skilled in his occupation.

b. To carry out faithfully the policies, obey the laws, enter into the activities, and expand the organization of the Corps.

c. To associate with the masses and serve the people diligently.

d. To support firmly and execute the policies and orders of the Communist Party and the Democratic Government. To set an example in whatever position he may be placed.

2. Privileges

a. To take part in meetings of the Corps with full freedom of discussion.

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- b. To nominate and to be nominated, to introduce resolutions, and to vote.
- c. To examine the activities and leadership of the Corps in meetings, and to criticize any member or activity of the Corps.
- d. Preferential right to enjoy all activities introduced in the public interest by the Corps and to read its documents.

E. Organizational Structure

1. The principle of Corps organization is that of democratic centralization, a centralization based on a democratic foundation or a democracy under a centralized leadership. Ordinarily, its work is carried on by a central leadership with a division of work and responsibility. Corps officers on each level will be elected by democratic secret ballot in the detachment assembly or in the representative assemblies of the branch unit (fen-t'uan), ch'u, hsien (or city), province (or special municipality), and Northeast Corps units. The highest authorities on the various Corps levels are the detachment assembly and the various levels of representative assemblies. Between sessions of these assemblies the headquarters (i.e., committee) at each level will act as the governing body.

2. The basic units of the Corps will be organized according to operational and production units. Detachments (composed of three or more cells) will be organized in villages, factories, mines, schools, offices and streets. A detachment headquarters will consist of a committee of three to seven persons, including a chairman (or one chairman and a vice-chairman) and organizational, propaganda, and children's activities committeemen. Members under the headquarters may be divided into cells of three to seven members each.

3. On the various corps levels above the detachment there will be committees of from seven to 19 members (with standing committees of five to 11) to supervise Corps activities and establish a chairman and vice-chairman and units for organization, propaganda and indoctrination, youth activities, student movements, social organizations and children's activities.

4. Youth Corps units on the provincial (or special municipality), hsien (or city), ch'u, branch, and detachment levels, in addition to maintaining their vertical, centralized leadership relationships, will also be under supervision of local Party and government organs.

F. Corps Meetings and Organizational Activities

1. To promote a high degree of democracy within the Corps, regular meetings should be held by the cells to study Corps documents, advance Corps education, develop a spirit of criticism and self-criticism and examine Corps activities and leadership.

2. The duties of the detachment headquarters are to carry out the directions of the Corps committees on higher levels and the decisions of the Corps Assembly, to disseminate and examine Corps activities as a whole, to make periodic reports to the Corps Assembly, and to organize study activities and increase membership. Detachment assemblies shall be held monthly.

3. The committees of branch, ch'u, hsien, and special municipality units shall be subject to re-election by the detachment assembly and by the respective representative assemblies every 6 months. Provincial and Northeast Corps committees shall be re-elected annually by the provincial and Northeast representative assemblies.

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G. Laws and Customs of the Corps

1. The laws of the corps are based on the self-discipline of the members and may not be violated or neglected.

a. The individual obeys the organization, the minority obeys the majority, and the lower ranks obey the higher.

b. The laws and decisions of the corps may not be disobeyed.

c. The member must not violate the interests of the masses nor manifest a tendency to separate from the masses.

d. Corps members shall set an example in honoring all the laws of the revolutionary government and the regulations of the revolutionary schools and groups.

2. Within the Corps, the customs of true simplicity and united action should be promoted.

H. Rewards and Punishments of Members

1. Corps members should manifest a progressive spirit and promote boldness and initiative. Everyone who can forego his own advantage, unselfishly accomplish the tasks assigned by the Corps, be an example to the masses, and secure their admiration, will be rewarded.

2. Members who violate the Corps laws and work to the disadvantage of the revolution and the masses will be reoriented, criticized, warned, given demerits, or reduced to probationary status, according to actual circumstances, by the various unit levels. If the member does not repent after reorientation, his membership may be discontinued, but such action must have the consent of the committee of the unit on the next highest level.

a. Rewards and punishments of the Corps are designed to encourage diligence in correcting mistakes and to increase understanding of the Corps laws. On all Corps levels disciplinary action shall be taken in accord with actual circumstances and after full and free discussion in cell meetings or unit assemblies.

b. The member concerned shall be informed of the action taken and shall have the right of appeal to the committee of the unit on the next highest level.

I. Dues

1. Each member shall pay dues each month as a token of his support of the organization. Dues will be paid at the end of every month. The amount is not stipulated.

2. The income of the Corps shall be made up of the dues paid by the Corps members and donations from social organizations.

3. The funds of the Corps shall be used for the educational, cultural, and administrative activities of the Corps. Periodic financial reports, shall be made to the Corps.

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J. Appendix

1. Pending the convocation of the Northeast Representative Assembly, this charter may be discussed, passed, and enforced by Corps units on the various levels.
2. The power of interpretation of these regulations rests with the Planning Committee of the Northeast Liberated Area New Democracy Youth Corps.
3. These regulations are provisional and may be revised or supplemented after formal discussion and passage by the plenary session of the Representative Assembly of the Northeast Corps. They may then be promulgated as the formal charter.

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